



Faculty of Medicine

Faculty Council Minutes

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

4:30 pm

Attendees: Sohaib Al-Asaad, Zaina Albalawi, Lindsay Alcock, Stacey Alexander, Tracey Bridger, Stuart Carney, Patricia Cousins, Peter Daley, Michael Davis, Ann Dorward, Norah Duggan, Alison Farrell, Kelly Foss, Robert Gendron, Cassie Grimsley Ackerley, Taryn Hearn, Tina Hickey, Elizabeth Hillman, Kathleen Hodgkinson, Gillian Kolla, Peter MacPherson, Craig Malone, Virginia Middleton, Kaylee Murphy, Amy Pieroway, Jordan Pike, Tracey Pittman, Kristen Romme, Jane Seviour, Tev Stachniak, Lana Soper, Michelle Swab, Reza Tabrizchi, Paul Tucker, Amanda Tzenov, Michael Woods

Regrets: Amanda Fowler, Susan MacDonald, Danielle O’Keefe, Peter Rogers, Laurie Twells

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
Welcome and Introduction	- Dr. Carney welcomed everyone to the meeting both in person and virtually.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review of AgendaConflict of Interest	- Dr. Carney asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. - The agenda was approved by those in attendance at the February 17, 2026 meeting. - COI - none noted; agenda approved.	
Review and approval of prior minutes of January 20, 2026	- Dr. Ann Dorward moved approval of the January 20, 2026 minutes; seconded by Dr. Kathy Hodgkinson.	
Dean’s Updates	Dr. Carney reported: - Continuing to meet with a variety of both internal and external individuals and groups. - Scheduled to present to the Board of Regents next week regarding the submissions for “Enhanced Funding for Undergraduate and Postgraduate” and “Clinical in Lieu Guidelines”. The submissions will go forward to both the Audit and Finance Committee	

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	<p>and the Board of Regents for review and approval. Will provide an update on this at next SMC meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit scheduled to the PEI Regional Campus on March 4-6, 2026. 	
Undergraduate Medical Education Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Hearn provided a presentation on UGME priorities, which include the medical school expansion, realignment of the phases and accreditation. - Discussion surrounded on whether there was any data on how well undergraduate learners are prepared for PGY1. Dr. Hearn noted the only data currently comes from the Medical Council of Canada and how learners are doing at the end of the year. 	Ms. Tracy Osmond to circulate the UGME presentation.
PEI Regional Campus Update	<p>Dr. MacPherson reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivery of the 1st year curriculum is going well. - Recently enacted the Unexpected Campus Closure and IT Disruption Guidelines due to snow days on one or both campuses. - Started planning the delivery of the Phase Three curriculum and recently held meetings in terms of understanding both faculty and staff requirements. - Goal for the upcoming academic year will be to increase the number of lectures that are streamed from the PEI Campus to the St. John's Campus. - Priorities for the upcoming year include building clerkship capacity. - More detailed discussion on the medium to long term partnership between Memorial and UPEI will look like. - Nearing completion on the multi-year and information sharing agreements. 	
Postgraduate Medical Education Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Al-Asaad provided a presentation on PGME priorities. He highlighted and provided details on the following four (4) strategic priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Response to Areas for Improvement in institutional and program specific accreditation reports. - Improve and strengthen relationships with stakeholders. - Modernize and clarify postgraduate processes. 	Ms. Tracy Osmond to circulate the PGME presentation.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stabilize postgraduate office human resources. - Discussion surrounded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What issues had been brought forward at St. Clare's? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Al-Asaad noted that internal and external reviews of the learning environment at St. Clare's identified concerns around less than optimal training conditions; these impacted postgraduate learners across multiple programs. - PGME has actively collaborated with NLHS to address concerns. However, during last year's accreditation, themes arose, which aligned with what had been heard in prior years. PGME is currently working with NLHS on finding solutions to address and rectify these concerns, for the long-term. - With the anticipated expansion of learners and PGME expansion. Where would you prioritize additional PGME seats or how might we go about? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Al-Asaad indicated that PGME works closely with the Department of Health to determine priorities, annually following the CaRMS process. Priorities for seats have perennially included 1. Family Medicine, 2. Core Internal Medicine / General Internal Medicine, and 3. Psychiatry. PGME has also requested a provincial HHR plan to help inform long term decision making and capacity building. 	
Admissions Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Tzenov provided an update on Admissions. The presentation highlighted and provided details on an overview of activities, the office and Admissions governance, admissions cycle/timelines and current work/initiatives. - Discussion surrounded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Growing the Vision Program to increase the number of applicants. Dr. Tzenov noted that continuing to promote the program, growing the funding base and expanding what the program covers will provide additional opportunities for growth. 	Ms. Tracy Osmond to circulate the Admissions presentation.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data and how useful is CASPer and MCAT. Dr. Tzenov explained that a project is underway to review the usefulness/predictive validity of current approaches. - Research and the analysis of retrospective data? Dr. Tzenov noted that will be going back approximately ten (10) years. 	<p>Dr. Amanda Tzenov to present preliminary research findings to Faculty Council in the fall of 2026.</p>
Academic Affairs Update	<p>Ms. Pittman reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendation has been received for the Associate Dean, LWS. - Interview days have been scheduled for the Chair, Discipline of Psychiatry. - The interview day for the Associate Dean, Graduate Studies has been rescheduled to March 10, 2026. - Search committees have been formed for the Assistant Dean, Clinical Experiences and the Assistant Dean, Classroom Experiences for UGME. - Committee has been formed for the review of the Chair, Discipline of Anesthesia. - Interviews have been scheduled for the Associate Dean, Libraries. This search is being managed by the Dean of Libraries. - Congratulations on the following appointments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. John Thoms as Assistant Dean, Clinical Research. - Dr. Jane Barron as Chair, Discipline of Lab Medicine. - Dr. Norah Duggan as acting Chair, Discipline of Family Medicine. - Dr. Reza Tabrizchi as acting Vice Dean, Research and Graduate Studies. 	
Any Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2026, 4:30 pm. 	

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